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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
Group Art Unit 3677

In re Patent Application of:

James R. Edgar

Serial No.: 09/975,649

Filed: October 11, 2001

Confirmation No.: 8597

Examiner: Gary Wayne Estremsky

Title: "LATCH APPARATUS AND METHOD"

I, Ellen R. Webb, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Washington, D.C. 20231, on the date of my signature.

  
Signature

August 26, 2003  
Date of Signature



EXAMINER'S INTERVIEW SUMMARY

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Examiner's Interview Summary is further to the Examiner's Interview with the undersigned Applicant's Representative on August 26, 2003, and is further to the Amendment filed in the above-referenced patent application on July 18, 2003.

In the Examiner's Interview, the general subject matter of claims 1 and 81 of the present application were discussed, as was the relationship between the Examiner's restriction requirement results (presented on page 3 of the March 18, 2003 Office Action) and the 35 U.S.C. §112 first paragraph rejections of the claims. No agreement was reached with regard to the pending claims.

The Applicant hereby respectfully submits that the present invention is patentable over the prior art and that the application is in condition for allowance. Early, favorable consideration of the present application is therefore respectfully requested. If any issues

remain outstanding following entry of the above amendments, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned Applicant's Representative at (414) 225-8266 to discuss the claims further.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher B. Austin  
Reg. No. 41,592

Michael Best & Friedrich LLP  
100 East Wisconsin Avenue  
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53202-4108  
(414) 271-6560

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Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an Interview Summary. No additional claim or extension fees are required. In the event Applicant has overlooked the need to request an extension of time, please consider this such a request. Please charge or credit Deposit Account No. 13-3080 with any shortage or overpayment of the fees associated with this communication.

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**GROUP 3600**

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher B. Austin  
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File No. 87801-9015-00

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